

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A system for facilitating the usage of
2 digital media files, said system comprising:

3 a player unit having a memory therein for
4 storing a plurality of digital media files thereon,
5 said player unit only outputs analog representations of
6 said digital media files stored in said memory; and

7 a modem for connecting said player unit to a
8 network and for downloading said digital media files to
9 said player unit.

1 2. The system according to claim 1, wherein said
2 player unit further comprises a card reader unit, said
3 player unit is adapted to retrieve an electronic value
4 from a card inserted in said card reader unit, said
5 electronic value being used to generate said analog
6 representations of said digital media files.

1 3. The system according to claim 1, wherein all
2 of said digital media files stored in said memory are
3 encrypted.

1 4. The system according to claim 3, wherein said
2 player unit decrypts a selected one of said digital
3 media files according to said electronic value.

1 5. The system according to claim 1, wherein said
2 player unit is a portable player unit or a desktop
3 player unit.

1 6. The system according to claim 1, wherein said
2 player unit further comprises browsing means for
3 browsing digital media files on said network.

1 7. The system according to claim 1, wherein said
2 player unit further comprises selecting means for
3 selecting one of said digital media files from said
4 site within said network.

1 8. The system according to claim 7, wherein said
2 selecting means is selected from the group consisting
3 of: a remote control unit, a voice command unit, a
4 keypad and a television interface controller.

1 9. The system according to claim 1, further
2 comprising:

3 a stereo component connected to said player unit
4 for playing said digital media files.

1 10. The system according to claim 1, further
2 comprising:

3 a transmitter for selectively transmitting said
4 analog representations of said digital media files over
5 a wireless channel.

1 11. The system according to 1, further comprising
2 headphones being connected to said player unit for
3 receiving and playing said analog audio representations
4 of said digital media files.

1 12. The system according to claim 1, wherein said
2 player unit comprises:

3 a digital video interface for capturing digital
4 video images.

1 13. The system according to claim 12, wherein
2 said digital video interface connecting a digital
3 camera and said player unit is an IEEE-1394 connector
4 interface.

1 14. The system according to claim 1, wherein said
2 modem is an Ethernet card for providing/establishing a
3 broadband connection with said network.

1 15. The system according to claim 1, wherein said
2 digital media files are encoded according to an MP3
3 format.

4 16. A player unit for facilitating digital media
5 files playback, said player unit comprising:

6 a storage unit for storing downloaded digital
7 media files;

8 a media processing element for generating only
9 analog versions of selected media files of the stored
10 digital media files and outputting only said analog
11 versions; and

12 a card reader for retrieving an electronic value
13 from a card inserted in said card reader, said
14 electronic value being used to generate said analog
15 versions of said digital media files.

1 17. The player unit according to claim 16,
2 further comprising:

3 navigation means for navigating through said
4 digital media files on said storage unit; and

5 user-manipulated control devices for controlling
6 said navigation means by a user.

1 18. The player unit according to claim 16,
2 further comprising a video output port for outputting
3 a video signal representative of a navigation operation
4 of said player unit.

1 19. The player unit according to claim 16,
2 further comprising an interface for interfacing said
3 player unit with a digital camera and receiving digital
4 video signals therefrom.

1 20. The player unit according to claim 16,
2 wherein said player unit is a desktop player unit.

1 21. The player unit according to claim 16,
2 further comprising a modem for downloading digital
3 media files from a network.

1 22. The player unit according to claim 16,
2 further comprising a remote transceiver for
3 transceiving optical signals between said player unit
4 and a remote control, said optical signals controlling
5 said player unit.

1 23. The player unit according to claim 16,
2 further comprising a liquid crystal display (LCD)
3 screen for visually displaying an operation performed
4 by said player unit.

1 24. The player unit according to claim 16,
2 wherein said player unit is a portable player unit.

1 25. The player unit according to claim 24,
2 further comprising a transmitter for transmitting said
3 analog versions of said selected digital media files
4 over a wireless channel.

1 26. The player unit according to claim 24,
2 further comprising an interface for interfacing with
3 a docking station for downloading said digital media
4 files.

1 27. The player unit according to claim 16,
2 further comprising a touch screen for visually
3 displaying information relating to the operation of
4 said player unit and selecting functions performed by
5 said player unit.

1 28. A method for controlling the playback of
2 digital media files on a player unit, said method
3 comprising the steps of:

4 selecting an encrypted digital media file from a
5 plurality of encrypted digital media files;

6 retrieving a decrypting key;

7 decrypting the selected encrypted digital media
8 file based upon the retrieved decrypting key; and

9 generating only an analog audio signal from the
10 decrypted digital media file.

1 29. The method according to claim 28, wherein
2 said step of decrypting comprises at least two separate
3 decryption operations, one of said decryption
4 operations being based on said retrieved decryption
5 key.

1 30. The method according to claim 29, wherein
2 said step of decrypting comprises a second decryption
3 operation based on an identification key corresponding
4 to said player unit.

1 31. The method according to claim 28, further
2 comprising, prior to said step of selecting, the step
3 of:
4 searching said encrypted digital media files.

1 32. The method according to claim 28, further
2 comprising, prior to said step of selecting, the steps
3 of:
4 downloading at least one of said encrypted digital
5 media files; and
6 storing said at least one of said encrypted
7 digital media files.

1 33. The method according to claim 32, further
2 comprising, prior to said step of downloading, the
3 steps of:

4 browsing digital media files on a network; and
5 choosing the digital media files to be downloaded
6 from said network.

1 34. The method according to claim 28, further
2 comprising the step of:

3 transmitting said analog audio signal over an air
4 interface.

1 35. The method according to claim 28, wherein
2 each of said encrypted digital media file is in an MP3
3 encoded format.

1 36. The method according to claim 35, further
2 comprising the step of:

3 decoding said digital media file.

1 37. A method for providing digital media files,
2 said method comprising the steps of:
3 receiving from a user two encryption keys;
4 encrypting digital media files based on said two
5 encryption keys; and
6 transmitting to said user the encrypted digital
7 media files.

1 38. The method according to claim 37, wherein
2 said receiving step further comprises the step of:
3 receiving identification of said digital media
4 files.

1 39. The method according to claim 37, further
2 comprising, prior to said transmitting step, the step
3 comprises:
4 storing said encrypted digital media files in a
5 staging server, said digital media files await a
6 connection by said user to be transmitted.

1 40. The method according to claim 37, further
2 comprising, prior to said step of transmitting, the
3 steps of:

4 encoding said digital media files; and
5 compressing said digital media files.

1 41. The method according to claim 37, wherein
2 said step of encrypting comprises:

3 performing a first encryption operation on said
4 digital media files based upon a first of said
5 encryption keys; and

6 performing a second encryption operation on said
7 digital media files based upon a second of said
8 encryption keys.

1 42. The method according to claim 37, wherein a
2 first of said encryption keys is associated with said
3 user and a second of said encryption keys is associated
4 with a user device to which said encrypted digital
5 media file is transmitted.

1 43. A system for providing digital media files,
2 said system comprising:

3 a receiver for receiving from a user at least one
4 encryption key;

5 an encrypter for encrypting a digital media file
6 based on said at least one encryption key;

7 a transmitter for transmitting to said user the
8 encrypted digital media file.

1 44. The system according to claim 43, further
2 comprising:

3 an encoder for encoding said digital media file;
4 and

5 a compressor for compressing said digital media
6 file.

1 45. The system according to claim 43, further
2 comprising:

3 a staging server for storing said encrypted
4 digital media file until a connection is available to
5 transmit said encrypted digital media file.

1 46. The system according to claim 43, further
2 comprising:

3 a digital media file library containing a
4 plurality of said digital media files.

1 47. The system according to claim 43, wherein
2 said encrypter performs a first encryption operation on
3 said digital media file based upon a first of said at
4 least one encryption key and a second encryption
5 operation on said digital media file based upon a
6 second of said at least one encryption key.

1 48. The system according to claim 43, wherein a
2 first of said at least one encryption key is associated
3 with said user and a second of said at least one
4 encryption key is associated with a user device to
5 which said encrypted digital media file is transmitted.

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